

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IGA-01

AID-05 IO-10 /081 W

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R 071108Z MAR 75 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9661
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
COMUSSAG NKP THI

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 4152

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PFOR CB US

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER'S MARCH 5 PRESS CONFERENCE: MORE ON LON NOL'S
RESIGNATION OFFER

REF : FBIS BANGKOK 051337

1. ACCORDING TO THE GKR'S MINISTRY OF INFORMATION BULLETIN,
PRIME MINISTER LONG BORET TOLD JOURNALISTS MARCH 5 (REFERENCE IS
AFP REPORT) THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD UNDERTAKEN A MAXIMUM EFFORT
TO GET PEACE NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY. LONG BORET REITERATED THAT
THE JULY 9TH GKR OFFER FOR TALKS SPECIFICALLY SUPPRESSED ALL
PREVIOUSLY STATED PRECONDITIONS AND NOTED THAT ALL DISAGREEMENTS
ARE SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION BY NEGOTIATION. THE
PRIME MINISTER UNDERLINED THAT AMERICAN AID IS VALUABLE FOR ENDING
THE WAR AND STATED THAT A HALT TO THIS AID WOULD INEVITABLY
LEAD TO A BLOODBATH. THE AKP ACCOUNT MADE NO REPEAT NO MENTION
OF LONG BORET'S AFFIRMATION THAT THE MARSHAL AND INDEED,
THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT IS READY TO RESIGN TO HELP RSSTORE PEACE.

2. THE SAME ISSUE OF AKP, HOWEVER, CARRIES AN AFP ACCOUNT OF
THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH, IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, QUOTES
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LONG BORET AS FOLLOWS: THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC IS "READY

TO SACRIFICE ALL TO AID HIS COUNTRY TO ENTER ON THE ROAD TO PEACE."
MARSHAL LON NOL, HE NOTED, "WAS DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED IN 1972,"
AND ADDED, "MOREOVER WE ARE ALL READY TO RESIGN. I COULD DO SO
TOMORROW. BUT, WE WILL NOT DO SO UNLESS WE HAVE THE ASSURANCE
THAT SUCH AN ACTION WILL LEAD TO PEACE."
DEAN

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